

Canon Newton

In 1875 Rev. Canon Newton was sent to Edmonton by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. He established the first Anglican Mission in Edmonton and labored in the Saskatchewan for twenty years among the white settlers and Indians. He went as far south as Red Deer and included Bear Lake, Sturgeon and Fort Saskatchewan in his regular missionary visits.

Canon Newton's rectory stood on the banks of the Saskatchewan about 1/2 mile north of the Clover Bar bridge. The spruce trees still stand on the hill and probably some of his white lilacs are still to be found. He was the first man to bring this shrub to Edmonton.

He ministered to the white settlers and Indians impartially and continued his work throughout the time of the Riel Rebellion and Frog Lake Massacre. His book is said to give a clear picture of the unrest and hostility among the Indians and the anxiety of the white settlers.

Canon Newton describes walking in his garden about the time of the Rebellion (1885) and seeing the headdresses of the Indians and their faces besmeared with war-paint peering at him over the hedges. He knew that the Indians were aroused and that some elements in the surrounding tribes were hostile to him but despite his uneasiness he continued to walk in the garden and inspect the lilacs. Finally the warriors disappeared. Later friendly natives informed him that this small band had set out definitely that day to scalp him and that they still could not account for his being alive. Whether Canon Newton's composure and confidence in the safety of his own surroundings commanded the respect of the Indians or whether as Cannon Newton says "It was the grace of God!" is a

question which cannot be answered.

Betty Bicknell

OTHER PROMISING FIELDS OF INVESTIGATION

Canon Newton - His book in the Synod Office of the Anglican Church, Archdeacon Tackaberry, 72233

The Gold Rush of 1898 from the Edmonton point of view,
Al Austin who lives at the turn of the road
on the Whitemud Flat got through and will know
of others from here.
Allan Omand and Dr. Braithwaite's brother started
but had to turn back because of scurvy.
Family named Jenners and 5 sons

John Stocks - engineer on the construction of the Canadian Pacific,
deputy minister of public works for the Territorial
government at Regina, deputy minister of public
works when Alberta was formed in 1905, building
the parliament buildings and working out the
system of road building for Alberta. Mrs. Donald
Carter of 13012-104 Avenue has all old records *diary*
Mrs. Harrison Young daughter of Factor Macdougall of the Hudson's
Bay Company who at 92 still resides in Edmonton

Malcolm Groat

Magistrate Downey on 90th Avenue is collecting early church history

Higginbottom of Lethbridge whose brother (one of the early
Mounted Police) died in Edmonton Monday is collecting
all the early Mounted Police stories.

In the early '80s Silver City sprang up. It was so called on
account of the supposed deposits of silver in the vicinity of
Castle Mountain and rapidly surpassed Calgary. It grew in a
few months into a city peopled with speculators and with
prospectors from every mining camp from California to Alaska.
Today the traveller on the Imperial Limited may have pointed
out to him a scar or two on the mountain side or a few piles of
weatherbeaten rubble that mark the location of this shadow
city of those romantic days.

Tommy Lauder 11427-102 avenue one of the early settlers here
who eventually became the first firechief in Edmonton